

REMARKS

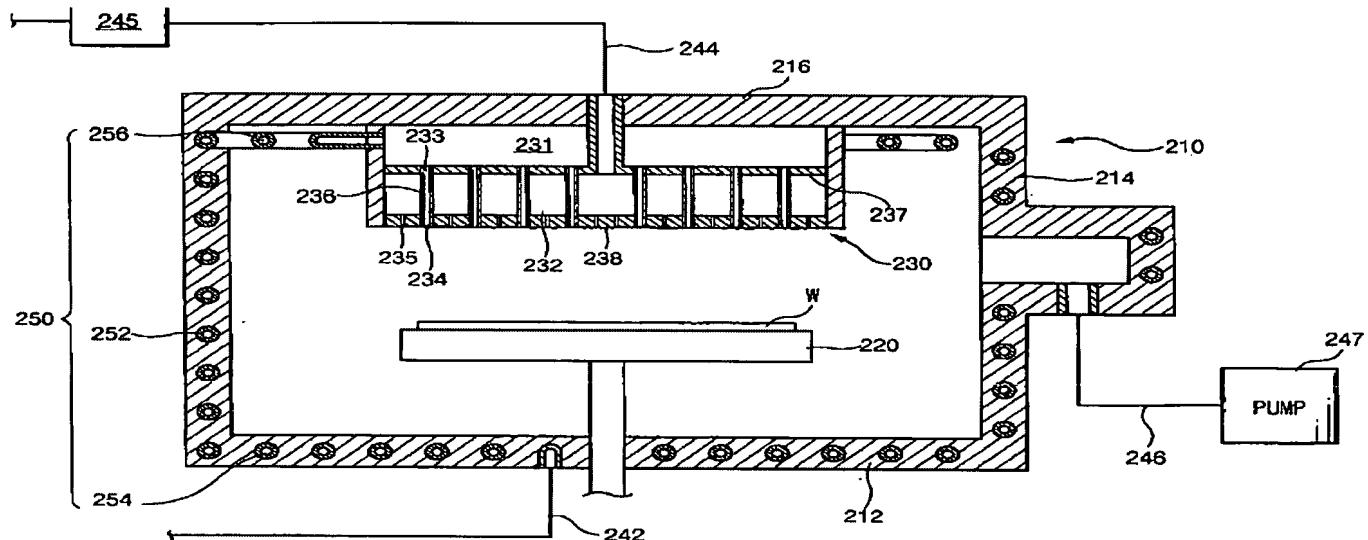
Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the preceding amendments and following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3-13 and 15-17 are pending in this application. No claims have been amended, cancelled or added. Claim 1 is the sole independent claim.

Example Embodiments of the Present Application

In example embodiments, a heating pipe may surround a susceptor and a first source gas flowing through the heating pipe and the heating pipe may be heated by heat radiated from the susceptor. Example non-limiting embodiments of these features are discussed, for example, in paragraphs [0035], [0042] and [0049] and FIG. 2 of the instant specification.

In example embodiments of the present application, for example, FIG. 2, the heating pipe 250 surrounds the susceptor 220. In example embodiments of the present application, for example, paragraph [0042], the first source gas flowing through the heating pipe 250 and the heating pipe 250 itself are heated by heat radiated from the susceptor 220.



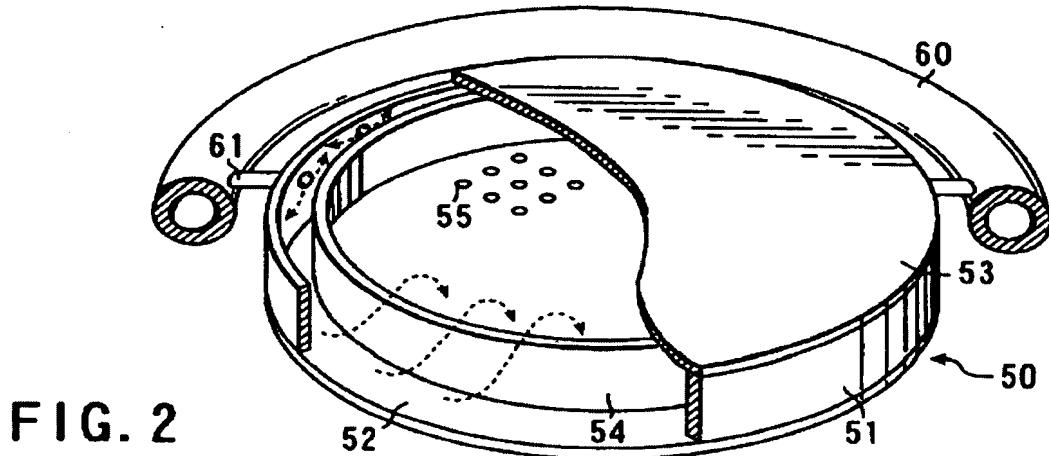
Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kitamura et al, US Patent 6,007,633. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the reasons detailed below.

Kitamura, as relied upon by the Examiner, fails to anticipate or suggest a “heating pipe surrounding the susceptor” and a “first source gas flowing through the heating pipe and the heating pipe ...heated by heat radiated from the susceptor” as recited in independent claim 1.

Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner has failed to point out each and every element of independent claim 1 disclosed by Kitamura. Therefore, Applicants request that the next Office Action be made non-final.

In FIG. 2 of Kitamura, the outer tube 60 (which the Examiner refers to as a heating pipe) surrounds the showerhead 50, rather than the susceptor as recited in independent claim 1.



Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Kitamura fails to teach or suggest a “heating pipe surrounding the susceptor” as recited in independent claim 1.

The Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the rejection to Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be withdrawn.

Further, as is clear from column 6, lines 34-38 and FIG. 1 of Kitamura, the outer tubes 60 and 61, the process gas and the showerhead 50 are heated by the upper heater 45, which is not located within the susceptor 30, but rather the upper cylindrical body 40.

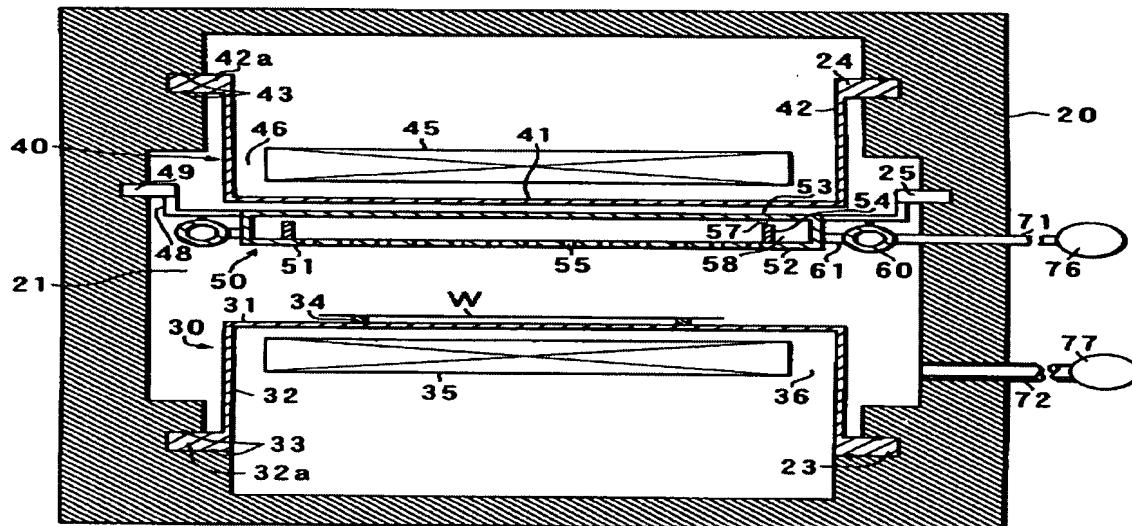


FIG. 1

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Kitamura fails to teach or suggest "the first source gas flowing through the heating pipe and the heating pipe ...heated by heat radiated from the susceptor" as recited in independent claim 1.

The Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the rejection to Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be withdrawn for these additional reasons.

Claim 16, dependent on independent claim 1, is patentable for the reasons stated above with respect to claim 1 as well as for its own merits.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to independent claim 1 and all claims dependent thereon.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks and amendments, the Applicants respectfully submit that each of the pending objections and rejections has been addressed and overcome, placing the present application in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Erin G. Hoffman, Reg. No. 57,752, at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKEY, & PIERCE, P.L.C.

By

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